



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending August 5, 2007

## TOBACCO HARVEST UNDERWAY

Tobacco harvest began on a limited basis this past week under extremely hot and dry weather conditions. For those not yet harvesting, the main activities were topping and applying sucker control. The persistent summertime drought continued last week as temperatures averaged above normal and rainfall averaged below normal in most areas. As a result, condition ratings for all row crops dropped slightly, although most are still in the fair category. The hot, dry weather has also caused the State’s corn to develop and mature more rapidly than usual. Additionally, some farmers used last week’s 6 days suitable for fieldwork to harvest corn silage and cut hay. Soybean development was on a slightly ahead-of-normal pace with almost three-fourths of the acreage setting pods. Pastures were downgraded from a week earlier, while cattle were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition with a few reports of pinkeye and sore-foot. Livestock producers continued to struggle with hay shortages, as stocks were rated as 41 percent very short, 43 percent short, and 16 percent adequate. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 36 percent very short, 41 percent short, and 23 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 52 percent very short, 35 percent short, and 13 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Dough	88	77	92	88	Cattle	7	12	39	37	5
Corn – Dent	65	43	66	59	Corn	21	29	33	17	0
Corn – Mature	7	n/a	8	9	Cotton	1	10	33	46	10
Corn – Harvested for Silage	22	7	25	14	Pastures	32	31	26	11	0
Cotton – Setting Bolls	93	88	94	88	Soybeans	13	21	39	25	2
Soybeans – Blooming	88	82	93	82	Tobacco	7	12	39	38	4
Soybeans – Setting Pods	72	60	80	62						
Tobacco – Topped	47	31	53	54						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	6	n/a	6	5						
Tobacco – Dark Air-Cured Harvested	6	n/a	3	3						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	12	n/a	6	6						

n/a = not available

### County Agent Comments

“All crops are at a critical stage that if we do not get any rain this week or next week, we will start seeing extreme drought stress in all crops. Early planted corn that survived the Easter freeze is beginning to dry down rapidly with our hot temperatures and soil moisture deficits. Insect pressures continue to remain relatively light. At the current dry down rate in some corn acres, would not be surprised if some corn acres will begin to be harvested by the third or fourth week of August. Wheat beans are suffering in a big way. Need rain!”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“Conditions continue to be extremely dry with recent isolated showers usually less than 0.2”. Cotton still has the potential to make a good yield but we need a mud rain soon. Hay is being cut with producers indicating yields of 40-60% of normal.”

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

“The continued drought has allowed producers to clean out and repair ponds. One producer indicated that a cow got trapped in mud in the pond bottom, when she was trying to find water. For August, cows appear thrifty, and calves appear light. Some farms are receiving showers that enable some grazing. This will save some hay (that is costing three times and more than normal) for later. More trees are beginning to die from freeze damage and/or drought.”

Ken Burress, Wayne County

“Scattered rains in past 15-20 days has rescued our soybeans and saved our pastures. Some farmer fertilized taking a gamble before expected rain. Those pastures have grown really good since the rains. Other pastures that are not overgrazed are recovering, but will need renovation or over seeding later on. The Coffee County corn crop seems to be fixed with little or no extra yield expected due to rains.”

Dean Northcutt, Coffee County

“Recent rains have improved pastures with the growth of warm season grasses. There is a slight promise of a late season cutting of hay if showers continue. Row crops are now showing stress from lack of moisture in the 90+ degree days.”

Tom Swanks, Meigs County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION  
For week ending: August 5, 2007 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending August 5, 2007				Current Week 08/05/07	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	100	68	83	5	0.07	1	18.92	-13.88	11.28	-7.75
Tri-City_RGNL_A	91	64	77	4	0.44	3	16.00	-9.95	10.48	-5.10
Brownsville_TN	98	70	84	4	0.71	2	17.12	-15.72	9.33	-9.71
Chattanooga/Lov	95	71	82	4	0.55	2	22.52	-10.89	15.27	-2.41
Clarksville_Sew	97	69	83	6	0.08	2	23.95	-7.15	14.83	-2.62
Cookeville	94	67	79	3	0.58	3	22.10	-13.28	12.20	-8.15
Covington	97	69	83	4	0.37	3	21.62	-10.69	12.84	-5.79
Crossville_AP	88	66	77	4	0.06	2	23.17	-11.77	16.15	-3.77
Dayton	92	65	78	2	0.96	3	21.67	-13.17	15.04	-3.78
Dickson_AG	97	64	81	4	0.00	0	22.06	-11.38	12.47	-6.96
Dover_1W	97	69	83	6	0.10	2	21.40	-11.03	11.02	-7.51
Dyersburg	99	70	84	5	0.00	0	19.33	-11.83	10.25	-8.09
Erwin_1W	89	64	76	4	0.32	1	22.26	-9.01	16.64	-3.12
Huntingdon_Wate	98	67	83	6	0.00	0	16.54	-16.13	8.13	-10.78
Jackson_Exp_Stn	98	70	83	5	0.17	1	17.52	-15.17	8.84	-10.57
Kingston_AG	93	67	79	4	0.30	3	23.90	-12.75	15.70	-4.87
Knoxville_AP	92	67	80	3	1.57	4	21.57	-8.85	14.53	-2.57
Lewisburg	97	65	81	4	0.00	0	22.01	-12.59	14.38	-5.64
Lexington_TN	98	70	84	5	0.08	1	18.36	-13.47	8.77	-9.87
Linden	99	67	82	6	0.11	1	20.17	-14.61	11.01	-8.78
Martin	99	61	83	5	0.20	3	21.87	-11.06	10.90	-8.79
Mc_Minnville_Tn	95	69	81	5	0.31	2	21.75	-11.83	14.73	-4.43
Memphis_AG	98	71	84	3	0.34	1	21.51	-10.33	13.54	-4.81
Milan	100	64	83	5	0.17	1	19.05	-14.47	10.81	-9.09
Murfreesboro_5N	96	68	81	4	0.55	2	23.40	-9.58	12.52	-6.68
Nashville_Metro	97	71	84	5	0.03	1	17.49	-12.13	9.92	-7.46
Newcomb	91	66	78	5	0.37	4	24.43	-9.78	16.42	-3.92
Oneida	91	66	78	5	0.96	6	22.59	-11.62	15.09	-5.25
Portland_TN	96	69	81	5	0.09	1	22.94	-9.30	13.58	-5.36
Pulaski_Water_P	96	68	81	3	0.34	2	17.99	-16.29	8.95	-9.94
Savannah_6SW	100	69	84	5	0.00	0	20.28	-15.33	11.62	-8.53
Sparta_TN	94	65	80	4	0.46	1	21.46	-12.99	13.07	-6.81
Springfield	97	66	82	6	0.33	3	20.65	-10.42	11.76	-6.44
Springhill	99	67	83	6	0.00	0	20.73	-13.82	11.23	-8.71
Union_City	96	65	82	4	0.00	0	21.62	-10.40	11.41	-7.43
Waynesboro_TN	98	67	82	6	0.94	1	21.51	-14.85	13.32	-7.27

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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